

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 MAZATL 00544 272028Z
ACTION SCA-01

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 SCSE-00 SSO-00 L-03 H-02 DHA-02
PPTE-00 SS-15 NSC-05 NSCE-00 SY-05 /044 W
-----272030Z 003196 /43

O 271830Z DEC 76 ZFF4
FM AMCONSUL MAZATLAN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 1015
INFO AMEMBASSY MEXICO NIACT IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS MAZATLAN 0544

MEXICO ATTENTION, PLEASE PASS COPY OF RSO ROCHE

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: CASC, MX
SUBJ: W/W HIGHWAY ASSAULT, ANTHONY P. LUCARELLI AND LIS ROBERTS.

REF: MAZATLAN'S 0543

1. ON DECEMBER 27 MR. ANTHONY LUCARELLI AND COMPANION LISA ROBERTS CALLED AT CONSULATE TO REPORT THE FOLLOWING: THEY ARRIVED IN CULIACAN BY HIGHWAY AT 5:00 P.M. ON DECEMBER 25, CHECKED IN AT A HOTEL AND THEN WENT SIGHTSEEING. WHILE MAKING A U-TURN ON A DEAD END STREET LEADING OFF HIGHWAY 15, THEIR VEHICLE WAS BOARDED BY TWO YOUTHS WITH SMALL CALIBER PISTOLS WHO IMMEDIATELY TOOK BUCARELLI'S BILLFOLD BUT LEFT GIRL'S PURSE INTACT. ONE OF THE YOUTHS TOOK THE WHEEL AND DROVE LUCARELLI AND FRIEND TO A GULLEY WHERE THEY TRIED TO FORCE THEM INTO AN ABANDONED HUT. LUCARELLI SAID THAT HE FELT THAT IF THEY ENTERED THE HUT THEY WOULD NOT COME OUT ALIVE, SO HE REFUSED AND STARTED BACKING OFF FROM THE GUNMEN. HE CALLED TO HIS FRIEND TO JOIN HIM, AND THEY FINALLY BROKE INTO A RUN. HE GLANCED BACK TO SEE THE TWO GUNMEN TAKING OFF IN HIS 1972 FOUR DOOR GREEN PLYMOUTH. HE DESCRIBED THE GUNMEN AS YOUNG AND NERVOUS.

2. WHEN ASKED WHETHER HE HAD REPORTED INCIDENT TO CULIACAN
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POLICE LUCARELLI STATED HE HAD NOT BECAUSE HE HAD BEEN TOLD BY MEXICANS IN A RESTAURANT TO KEEP AWAY FROM POLICE. WITH HIS PERMISSION, CONSUL REPORTED INCIDENT TO CULIACAN POLICE.

3. CULIACAN POLICE CHIEF STATED THAT ON DECEMBER 25 A GROUP OF ASSAILANTS HAD ATTEMPTED TO ASSAULT A BUS AND THAT THERE WAS AN

EXCHANGE OF GUNFIRE. THE ASSAILANTS SUBSEQUENTLY FLED TO THE
MOUNTAINS WHERE THE ARMY IS TRYING TO TRACK THEM DOWN.
MATTHEWS

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 27 DEC 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976MAZATL00544
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760473-0241
From: MAZATLAN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19761213/aaaaaktn.tel
Line Count: 64
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION SCA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 MAZATLAN 543
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: vogelfj
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10 JUN 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <10 JUN 2004 by chengls>; APPROVED <21 DEC 2004 by vogelfj>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: W/W HIGHWAY ASSAULT, ANTHONY P. LUCARELLI AND LIS ROBERTS.
TAGS: CASC, MX
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006